WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Poor performance of ITDC

*425. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the performance of ITDC has been poor as compared to other hotel groups in the country; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to improved its performance in the country rather than having tie-ups with other hotels abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) The role of ITDC in providing hotel accommodation in the country has been that of a catalyst where the private sector investment has not been forthcoming Its role includes developmental, promotional as well as commercial as against the role of private sector hotels which has been commercial only. However, the performance of ITDC's Hotels Divisions has been encouraging as can be seen from the following table:

Year	%Room occupancy	Turnover	Operating profit/ loss(—)	Net profit/ loss(—)
			Rupees in	lakhs
1985-86	61	5046 36	1287.48	267.91
1986-87	69	5874.31	1487 17	418.06
1987-88	70	6566.21	1628.55	479.50

Improvement in the performance of ITDC hotels has been a continuous process. The various steps which ITDC has been taking for this purpose inter alia include: (1) Participation in Travel Trade Forums; (2) Promoting its properties; (3) Greater thrust in advertising; (4) Product improvement; (5) Exercising control on expenditure; (6) Introduction of special package tours for promoting domestic tourism, etc.

Development of Tourist spots in J & K

*426. SHRI DHARAM PAL: Will the MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the places, which have been identified by Government for development to attract tourists in the central sector in J&K State;

(b) what is the total expenditure incurred on these projects, so far; and

(c) whether an integrated Tourist Complex comprising Katra, Salal Lake and Patni Top will be Surveyed and taken up in the central sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) Identification of centres and formulation of proposals for central financial assistance are done by the State Governments concerned. The Department of Tourism provides financial assistance to States for development of tourism infrastructure on the basis of specific proposals received from the State Governments.

The Department of Tourism has provided financial assistance for the development of the following tourist centres in J & K:—

1. Gulmarg
2. Patni Top
3. Srinagar
4. Jammu
5. Avantipur
6. Martand
7. Pandrethan
8. Pahalgam
9. Qazigund
10. Dyalachowk
11. Udhampur
12. Mansar
13. Hemis Gompa

14. Lamayuru
15. Bijbehara
16. Adhkwari
17. Bhavan

From Second Five Year Plan to the Seventh Five Year Plan so far, an expenditure of Rs 489.41 lakhs has been incurred on development of tourism infrastructure at the above mentioned places.

(c) No, Sir. However, the State Government has undertaken development of a Tourist Complex at Patni Top out of the plan funds allocated to the State.

Establishment of Indian Highway Finance Corporation

@*426-A. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the establishment of the Indian Highway Finance Corporation is being considered by Government to raise large scale finance which is urgently needed for modernising national and State Highways all over the country;

(b) if so, by when a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter; and

(c) to what extent the formation of this body will help in modernisation of the Highway plans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The various aspects of the proposal are under examination.

(c) The Indian Highway Finance Corporation will provide an institution which can raise additional funds for Highways.

Irregular supply of medicines by Super Bazar

*427. DR RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the supply of medicines by Super Bazar, Delhi to CGHS dispensaries in the capital is not regular, which causes inconvenience to the patients; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) what steps Government have taken to authorise CGHS beneficiaries to buy medicines from the open market in cases of non supply of medicines by Super Bazar promptly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Supply of medicines by Super Bazar to CGHS dispensaries is generally satisfactory.

(b) In case any medicine cannot be supplied by Super Bazar, the beneficiary is authorised to purchase it from the open market on the basis of non-availability certificate issued by the Super Bazar and thereafter claim re-imbursement.

Income of DTC from private buses

*428. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what was the monthly average inomce of Delhi Transport Corporation from a private bus before the strike in March last; and

(b) in what manner it compares with that during April and May last, after the strike and the reasons for loss, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The average monthly income of DTC from a private bus operating under kilometre scheme was Rs. 23.537 for twelve month period of March 1987 to *February, 1988. After the strike* there is no income to DTC from any private bus as the old kilometerage scheme is not operative.

@Previously Starred Question 407, transferred from the 30th August, 1988.